

D.C. and Montgomery for annual trips. She has also planned and organized the Chamber's Washington and Alabama updates, Armed Forces Celebrations, annual outings and more than 100 other events. All of these have been very professionally administered with a careful eye for detail and a very personalized touch.

We have a very open and warm working relationship with Mrs. Miree. Working together to bridge the connection between the Tennessee Valley and the federal government, we have taken giant steps towards generating more economic development in North Alabama. As a resident of Huntsville since 1952 and a long time member of First Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Miree cares about her community and it shows.

I want to offer my best wishes and congratulations to Mrs. Miree and her family: her husband Reggie, her three children, Lucia, Marian and Trey and her three grandchildren, Jessica, Brandon and Alexandra.

For her dedication, hard work and loyalty, I feel that this is an appropriate honor. Over her twelve year career, she has become a role model for her work ethic and competence. On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I pay homage to Mrs. Miree and thank her for a job well done. I wish her a well-deserved rest and I wish the Chamber the best of luck in coping without her.

2000 EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3908) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Chairman, in 1973, the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control issued its "America Burning" report. For the fire service this was a turning point in its 350 year history and led to the creation of the United States Fire Administration.

Today is another such turning point because this afternoon we will see a renewed Federal commitment to the fire service. I will get into the details in a moment but first I would like to thank a few of my colleagues for their leadership.

First, is my good friend from Pennsylvania CURT WELDON. As all of you know, Representative WELDON is the founder of the Fire Caucus and has done more to advance the cause of first responders than any other Member in Congress.

Secondly, I would like to thank my friend from New Jersey Representative BILL PASCRELL. Congressman PASCRELL is the sponsor of the FIRE Act, H.R. 1168. The FIRE Act has energized the fire service and the grant provisions to our first responders included in the amendment today are largely derived from his legislation.

Finally, are my Fire Caucus Co-chairs. Representative ROB ANDREWS and Representative SHERRY BOEHLERT, and Representatives NICK

SMITH who serves as Chairman of the Basic Research Subcommittee of the Science Committee. All of them have worked very hard to get us here today.

Mr. Chairman, as I said before this is a watershed moment for the fire service. The proposed amendment does four very important things for the fire service. First, it makes available \$10 million for the Volunteer Fire Assistance program. This program helps fire departments in rural and suburban areas prepare for and fight wildfires.

The second component is \$10 million for a competitive grant program administered by FEMA for burn prevention, research, and treatment. This money will be used by groups like Safe Kid, AARP, and NFPA to prevent fires before they start.

Groups like the International Association of Fire Fighters will be able to apply for the money to augment their very successful burn camp. Unlike other accident victims, burn survivors are often permanently disfigured and require extensive physical therapy, job re-training and counseling.

The fourth item is the \$80 million that will be made available to fire fighter health and safety. Sadly, every year roughly 100 fire fighters are killed in the line of duty. This money will be used to purchase turnout gear, communications equipment, promote fire fighter fitness, increase training, and enforce the fire codes.

Mr. Chairman, I want to urge all of my colleagues to support this amendment.

IN HONOR OF ABBY SNAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 6, 2000, Abby Snay will be honored at a luncheon in San Francisco for her 25 years of service to the Jewish Vocational and Career Counseling Service (JVS).

Abby Snay first joined JVS in 1975 as a part-time counselor for high school students. In 1981, she became Assistant Director of JVS and in 1984 assumed her current position as the Executive Director. It is truly remarkable that for more than two decades she has remained with JVS benefitting that organization and the larger San Francisco community with her insight, wisdom, and hard work.

For twenty-five years, Abby has worked closely with leaders of business and government to provide employment-related services for people with diverse backgrounds and from diverse communities in San Francisco. She is well known for her ability to develop innovative partnerships with local educational institutions, private companies and other community-based organizations to train adults and youth and place them into jobs. Abby has possessed the ability to anticipate trends before they happen and to reinvent JVS as the community's needs change. Her many accomplishments include: rehabilitation programs for people with disabilities, including two current programs for individuals living with HIV/AIDS; occupational training programs in computer assisted drafting and design, nursing and related medical skills, computer literacy, and vocational English as a second language (VESL); school

to work programs for students with disabilities; and job search and placement programs for welfare recipients and homeless men and women.

Under Abby's leadership, JVS has grown from a small organization with four employees and a \$300,000 budget to an influential community-based organization with more than 70 full time employees and a budget of over \$4 million. Abby was named the Jewish Community Federation's Professional of the Year in 1993, and since she became Executive Director in 1984, JVS has received numerous awards for its innovative programs.

Mr. Speaker, I join with Abby's many friends in San Francisco in celebrating her career. She is a remarkable person and San Francisco has benefitted greatly from her contributions.

IN HONOR OF CELINE MARCUS ON THE OCCASION OF HER NINETEENTH BIRTHDAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Celine Marcus. Mrs. Marcus is well known and broadly respected as a leading advocate for tenants' rights, seniors, and the poor. She is a role model and an inspiration to countless residents in New York City. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Mrs. Marcus's 90th birthday by expressing our Nation's deep appreciation and gratitude for her life and work.

A civic activist for more than 30 years, Mrs. Marcus has devoted herself to helping the poor, the elderly, and the homeless in her community on the Upper East Side of Manhattan. As an advocate for tenant rights and rent protections, Mrs. Marcus was a founder of the Neighborhood for Shelter, the Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, and Interfaith Neighbors.

Serving first as Associate and then as Executive Director of the Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, Mrs. Marcus created such innovative programs as the Lenox Hill Senior Center and Project SCOPE, which provides home care services for housebound older adults in the community. As Executive Director, Mrs. Marcus has thoroughly advanced the mission of The Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, to help those in need on Manhattan's East Side while improving the quality of life for all the individuals and families in its community.

In recognition of her leadership and great commitment to those in need, the City Council of New York has declared March 30, 2000, "Celine Marcus Day." For more than 30 years, Mrs. Marcus has devoted herself to the underserved residents of her community. She created numerous tenant and block associations and organized neighbors to fight for fair housing protections. In her every endeavor Mrs. Marcus has brought health and happiness to others and touched the lives of countless New Yorkers.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the life and work of Celine Marcus, and I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing her significant contributions to the Lenox Hill community, to the city of New York, and to our great Nation.